



WOMEN
ON STAMPS

WOMEN ON POSTAGE STAMPS

The women who are chosen to be portrayed on American postage stamps are paid this special tribute for a unique accomplishment, a historic achievement, or a contribution worthy of worldwide recognition. All of the women pictured on the stamps that follow made significant contributions.

As you read about them, you will learn about the role women played in Columbus's first voyage, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the Underground Railroad, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, the founding of Bethune-Cookman College, and other important events.

In reminding us of these and other achievements that exemplify the versatile qualities of women, the United States Postal Service seeks to honor the women portrayed on the stamps featured in this brochure.



QUEEN ISABELLA

(1451-1504)

Queen Isabella's special patronage of Christopher Columbus made possible his first voyage to America in 1492 and opened the way for Spain's colonial power in the New World.

Issued: 1893 and 1992



MARTHA WASHINGTON

(1731-1802)

This stamp portraying Martha Washington was the first postage stamp honoring an American woman. She was the First Lady of our country, and wife of George Washington, first President of the United States.

Issued: 1902, 1923, and 1938



POCAHONTAS

(ca. 1595-1617)

Pocahontas was born in Virginia, daughter of Chief Powhatan. According to legend, she saved the life of Captain John Smith by throwing herself on him as he was about to be beaten to death by Powhatan's men.

Issued: 1907

MOTHERS OF AMERICA

Issued in tribute to the mothers of the nation, this stamp pictures Whistler's painting *Portrait of the Artist's Mother*.

Issued: 1934



SUSAN B. ANTHONY

(1820-1906)

Susan B. Anthony was a reformer and feminist who spent more than 50 years making major contributions to the woman's suffrage cause, despite continuous opposition. Fourteen years after her death, the "Anthony amendment," providing full woman's suffrage, became the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

Issued: 1936 and 1955



VIRGINIA DARE

(1587-?)

Virginia Dare was the first child of English parents in the New World. Nine days after her birth on Roanoke Island, ships sailed back to England for supplies. When they returned in 1590, there was no trace of her or any of the other settlers left behind.

Issued: 1937





LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

(1832-1888)

Louisa May Alcott's first book was *Flower Fables*, a collection of tales and poems written for Ralph Waldo Emerson's daughter. In 1868, Alcott achieved fame with the publication of *Little Women*.

Issued: 1940

FRANCES E. WILLARD

(1839-1898)

Frances E. Willard was a renowned and successful American educator, reformer, lecturer, and woman's suffrage supporter. In 1905 the State of Illinois erected her statue in the National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol.

Issued: 1940



JANE ADDAMS

(1860-1935)

Jane Addams was the founder of Hull-House, a Chicago social settlement house. In 1919 she also founded the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, serving as president until 1929. In 1931 she was co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Issued: 1940

PROGRESS OF WOMEN

Issued in Seneca Falls, New York, site of the first women's rights convention in 1848, this stamp pictures Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902), a pioneer reformer for woman's suffrage and rights; Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1947), a suffrage reformer and founder of the League of Women Voters; and Lucretia Mott (1793-1880), an abolitionist and advocate for women's rights, who helped found the American Anti-slavery Society.

Issued: 1948



CLARA BARTON

(1821-1912)

Clara Barton served as a Union nurse during the Civil War, caring for the wounded, distributing supplies, and searching for missing soldiers. In 1882 she founded the American Red Cross and served as its first president from 1882-1904.

Issued: 1948 and 1995

GOLD STAR MOTHERS

This stamp was issued in tribute to mothers of the nation who had lost children in the service of the United States.

Issued: 1948





JULIETTE GORDON LOW

(1860-1927)

Juliette Gordon Low was an American Youth Leader who founded the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

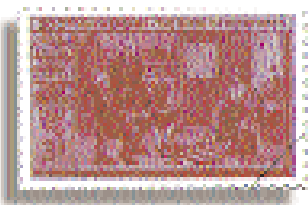
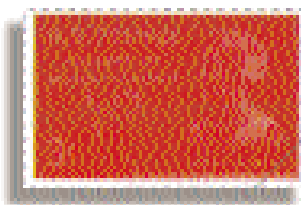
Issued: 1948

MOINA MICHAEL

(1868-1944)

Moina Michael chose the red poppy in 1918 as a way in which the American Legion in New York could, through its sale, raise money for disabled veterans and their dependents. In 1922 the Veterans of Foreign Wars adopted the memorial poppy nationally and renamed it the "Buddy Poppy."

Issued: 1948



BETSY ROSS

(1752-1836)

Betsy Ross was an American seamstress who is best known as the maker of the first American flag.

Although this claim is undocumented, her identity is well-established in public, government, and historical records.

Issued: 1952

WOMEN IN OUR ARMED SERVICES

This stamp was issued in tribute to the thousands of women who answered the call to service during World War II.

Issued: 1952

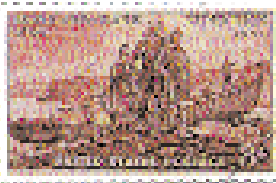


SACAGAWEA

(ca. 1786-1812)

Sacagawea was the Shoshone woman who led the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806 through the Pacific Northwest. She provided invaluable assistance as an interpreter and guide.

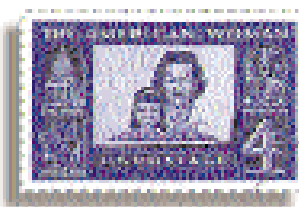
Issued: 1954 and 1994



THE AMERICAN WOMAN

This stamp was issued to pay tribute to American women for their contributions at home and in civic affairs, education, industry, and the arts.

Issued: 1960





CAMP FIRE GIRLS

This stamp commemorates Camp Fire Girls, founded in 1910 as a national nonprofit and nonsectarian youth organization whose primary purpose is “to improve those conditions in society which affect youth.” It first opened its membership to boys in 1975 and is now known as Camp Fire Boys and Girls.

Issued: 1960

NURSING

Nursing has provided a crucial function in the medical community since it became professionalized in the late 19th century. Nurses perform a variety of services, including research, health education, and patient consultation that benefit the community as a whole.

Issued: 1961



GIRL SCOUTS U.S.A.

This stamp was issued in recognition of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

Issued: 1962 and 1987

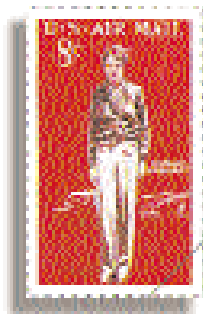


AMELIA EARHART

(1897-1937)

Aviator Amelia Earhart was the first woman to cross the Atlantic in an airplane (1928), fly over the Atlantic alone (1932), receive the Distinguished Flying Cross (1932), and fly nonstop across the United States (1935). During an attempt to fly around the world in 1937, she was lost over the Pacific.

Issued: 1963



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

(1884-1962)

Eleanor Roosevelt was an extremely vocal, active, and influential First Lady. During press conferences for women reporters and in her syndicated column, she championed the rights of women, children, minorities, and the disadvantaged.

Issued: 1963, 1984 and 1998





HOMEMAKERS

This stamp was issued to salute American women for “making a house a home.” The stamp also commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act. This legislation opened the way to improve home life throughout America by providing home economics experts to advise women on better ways to feed and clothe their families.

Issued: 1964

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS

In recognition of the 75 years of service of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, this stamp was issued to honor nearly one million women who were members of U.S. clubs, overseas clubs, and organizations.

Issued: 1966



MARY CASSATT

(1844-1926)

Daughter of a wealthy banker, this American artist gave up the life of a socialite to paint in Paris. In 1904 Mary Cassatt was awarded the prestigious Legion of Honor medal by the French government. Her best loved works portray mothers and children together in a way that is fresh, simple, and wonderfully engaging. The penetrating intimacy in her work earned her credit for a bold and original style.

Issued: 1966, 1988 and 1998



LUCY STONE

(1818-1893)

Lucy Stone was an abolitionist and women's rights leader who helped organize the American Woman Suffrage Association.

Issued: 1968

GRANDMA MOSES

(1860-1961)

Anna Mary Robertson Moses took up painting in her seventies when arthritis made it too painful for her to continue her yarn pictures. She continued painting until her death at age 101. The stamp depicts her painting *July Fourth*.

Issued: 1969





WOMAN SUFFRAGE

This stamp was issued in Adams, Massachusetts, birthplace of woman's suffrage leader Susan B. Anthony, on the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment.

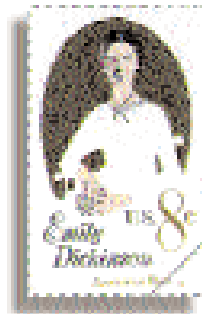
Issued: 1970

EMILY DICKINSON

(1830-1886)

Considered one of the greatest American poets, Emily Dickinson wrote more than 1,700 poems, but fewer than ten had been published at the time of her death.

Issued: 1971



WILLA CATHER

(1873-1947)

Willa Cather won the Pulitzer Prize in 1923 for her novel *One of Ours*. Her subsequent novel, *A Lost Lady*, made her famous. She was the first woman to receive an honorary degree from Princeton, and later the National Institute of Arts and Letters awarded her their Gold Medal.

Issued: 1973

ELIZABETH BLACKWELL

(1821-1910)

Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman physician, paved the way for future generations of women doctors.

Issued: 1974



SYBIL LUDINGTON

(1761-1839)

Sybil Ludington was a Revolutionary War heroine. Two years after Paul Revere's legendary ride, 16-year-old Sybil rode on horseback through the New York and Connecticut countryside to rally the militia. The militia responded and, although the city of Danbury was burned, the British were forced into disastrous retreat.

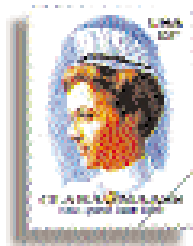
Issued: 1975

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 1975 International Women's Year.

Issued: 1975





CLARA MAASS

(1876-1901)

While serving as a contract nurse in Havana, Cuba, during the Spanish-American War, 25-year-old Clara Maass volunteered to be bitten by a mosquito suspected of carrying yellow fever. After being bitten twice, she came down with the fever and died. Her sacrifice helped advance medical science and significantly contributed to humanity. She was born in East Orange, New Jersey.

Issued: 1976

SEAMSTRESS

The skills of American civilians supporting troops in the field were essential to winning the American Revolution. The Seamstress stamp was one of a block of four Skilled Hands for Independence stamps.

Issued: 1977



HARRIET TUBMAN

(ca. 1820-1913)

During the years leading to the Civil War, abolitionist Harriet Tubman was a conductor on the legendary Underground Railroad. During the war she served the Union Army as a spy and scout. Born a slave, Tubman spent her entire life working for the betterment of African Americans.

Issued: 1978 and 1995



FRANCES PERKINS

(1882-1965)

Appointed Secretary of Labor by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932, Frances Perkins became the first woman member of a Presidential Cabinet.

Issued: 1980

DOLLEY MADISON

(1768-1849)

Wife of the fourth U.S. President, James Madison, Dolley Madison resourcefully and bravely managed to salvage a Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington and valuable state papers during the 1814 burning of Washington, D.C., by the British.

Issued: 1980





HELEN KELLER

(1880-1968)

ANNE SULLIVAN

(1866-1936)

Helen Keller, a writer and lecturer, was born a healthy baby in Tuscumbia, Alabama, but a severe illness caused her to lose her sight and hearing. As a result of her deafness, she could not speak. When Helen was seven, Anne Sullivan became her teacher and friend and introduced her to the world of communication. Keller devoted her life to helping others with disabilities.

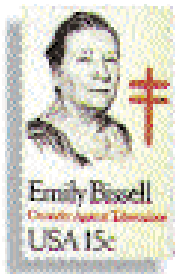
Issued: 1980

EDITH WHARTON

(1862-1937)

Writer Edith Wharton received the Pulitzer Prize in 1921 for her most famous novel, *The Age of Innocence*.

Issued: 1980



EMILY BISSELL

In order to raise funds for a tuberculosis sanitarium, Emily Bissell started the tradition of buying Christmas Seals in America in 1907. Her fund-raising increased the public awareness of tuberculosis, a greatly feared disease of that era, and prompted others to take action.

Issued: 1980

BLANCHE STUART SCOTT

(1889-1970)

Introduced to flying in 1910, this pioneer aviator was the first woman to make a solo flight. Billed as the “Tomboy of the Air,” Blanche Scott performed with a small group of barnstormers on the daredevil circuit. She expressed the hope that her stunts would stimulate more opportunities for women in aeronautics. She later became a special consultant for the U.S. Air Force.

Issued: 1980

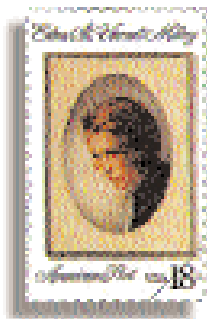


RACHEL CARSON

(1907-1964)

The publication of Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring* in 1962 shocked the world and touched off a major international controversy over the effects of pesticides. She was an exacting scientist who entranced the public with the exciting literary style she used to present basic scientific information.

Issued: 1981



EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

(1892-1950)

Born in Rockland, Maine, Edna St. Vincent Millay began writing poetry early; her first poem was published when she was 14 years old. She published three books of poetry: *Renascence and Other Poems* (1917), *A Few Figs from Thistles* (1920), and *Second April* (1921). She received the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1923 for “The Ballad of the Harp-Weaver.” Her work, eloquently reminiscent of older poetic traditions, captured the spirit of her time.

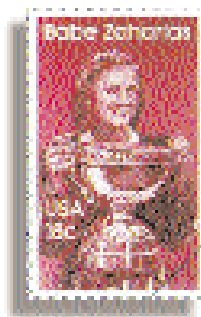
Issued: 1981

BABE ZAHARIAS

(1914-1956)

Mildred (Babe) Didrickson Zaharias was a champion athlete in basketball, track and field, and golf. She won eight events and tied for a ninth in women’s national track and field championships from 1930 to 1932. She also captured two events in the 1932 Olympic Games. She won virtually every women’s golf title, both as an amateur and professional.

Issued: 1981

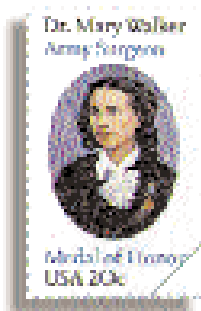


THE BARRYMORES

ETHEL (1879-1959)

John, Ethel, and Lionel Barrymore were renowned actors in the early 20th century, continuing a long line of stage actors in their family. Ethel performed on stage, in vaudeville, on radio, on television, and in film. She won an Academy Award for her performance in *None but the Lonely Heart* in 1944.

Issued: 1982

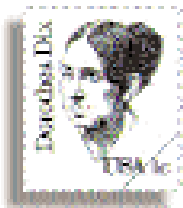


DR. MARY WALKER

(1832-1919)

Dr. Mary Walker was a humanitarian devoted to the care and treatment of the sick and wounded during the Civil War, often at the risk of her own life. A patriot dedicated and loyal to her country, she successfully fought against the sex discrimination of her time. Her personal achievements, as much as her vocal support, significantly contributed to the struggle for women's rights. In 1865 she was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Issued: 1982



DOROTHEA DIX

(1802-1887)

Social and political activist Dorothea Dix was a crusader for the poor and mentally ill. She journeyed across the country and abroad, visiting penitentiaries, jails, poorhouses, and hospitals. Her findings prompted major prison reform and the establishment of many new mental institutions.

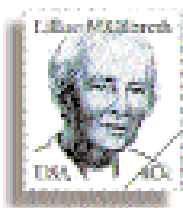
Issued: 1983

PEARL BUCK

(1892-1973)

Born in Hillsboro, West Virginia, author and humanitarian Pearl S. Buck was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 for her novel *The Good Earth*, and the Nobel Prize for literature in 1938. The daughter of Presbyterian missionaries, she spent most of her youth in China.

Issued: 1983



LILLIAN M. GILBRETH

(1878-1972)

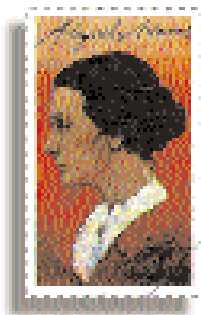
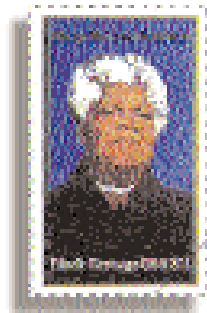
A pioneer in American engineering during a period when very few women worked in that field, Lillian Gilbreth, together with her husband, Frank, laid the foundation for a new field of study called industrial engineering. She became one of the foremost industrial engineers of her day.

Issued: 1984

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

(1875-1955)

Mary McLeod Bethune was a noted educator and social activist. In 1904 she founded the Daytona Normal and Industrial Training Institute for Negro Girls, now Bethune-Cookman College. She was appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to head the Negro Affairs Division of the National Youth Administration, the highest government job then held by an African-American woman. In 1935 Bethune founded the National Council of Negro Women.

Issued: 1985

ABIGAIL ADAMS

(1744-1818)

Wife of John Adams, second President of the United States, Abigail Adams was a noted letter writer, confidante of her husband, and mother of one of the most important dynasties in American public life. Her letters have distinguished her as one of the leading women writers of her era, and historians credit her as one of the most influential women in American history.

Issued: 1985



BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS

In 1903 Irvin Westheimer developed the idea of pairing at-risk youths with caring adult mentors, which later became the basis of Big Brother and Big Sister organizations. The current Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, founded in 1977, has grown to include nearly 500 chapters.

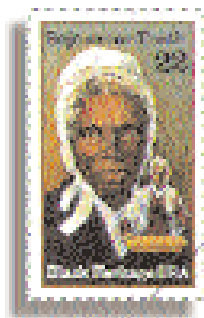
Issued: 1985

SOJOURNER TRUTH

(ca. 1797-1883)

Sojourner stood for truth and freedom. Originally named Isabella, she was born a slave in Ulster County, New York. She was freed in 1827. After receiving what she believed to be a command from God, she changed her name to Sojourner Truth and began to speak out for abolition and woman's suffrage.

Issued: 1986



BELVA ANN LOCKWOOD

(1830-1917)

Attorney and activist Belva Ann Lockwood was a pioneer in women's rights. She was the first woman admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. Born in Royalton, New York, she began teaching school at age 15. For more than 50 years she fought against the exclusion of women from the rights that men enjoyed.

Issued: 1986



MARGARET MITCHELL

(1900-1949)

Margaret Mitchell became a reporter for the Atlanta Journal in 1922, a major accomplishment for a woman of her era. Her novel *Gone with the Wind* was a publishing phenomenon, setting a sales record of 50,000 copies in one day. In 1937 she received the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Issued: 1986



MARY LYON

(1797-1849)

A pioneer in women's education, Mary Lyon helped organize Wheaton Seminary (now College) in Massachusetts. She founded Mount Holyoke Seminary (now College) and served as its president from 1837 to 1849. Her efforts were a major factor in the spread of higher education for women in the U.S.

Issued: 1987



JULIA WARD HOWE

(1819-1910)

A social reformer, perhaps best known as the author of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” Julia Ward Howe was a founder and first president of the New England Woman Suffrage Association. In 1907 she was the first woman elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Issued: 1987

HAZEL WIGHTMAN

(1886-1974)

Hazel Wightman is credited with doing more to build American and international tennis than any other player. She won 45 U.S. tennis titles in her career, as well as every event she entered between 1909 and 1911. She donated the Wightman Cup for the United States-Great Britain women’s tennis tournament.

Issued: 1990



HELENE MADISON

(1913-1970)

Helene Madison stood on the top step of the victory stand three times to receive gold medals in swimming during the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. She outdistanced all opponents in the 100-meter freestyle, the 400-meter freestyle, and the 4x100-meter freestyle relay. That same year she held all 16 women's world freestyle records.

Issued: 1990

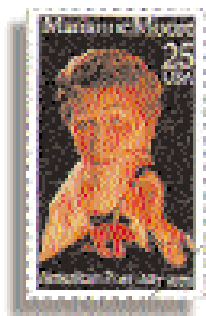


IDA B. WELLS

(1862-1931)

Ida B. Wells was a civil rights activist, journalist, and cofounder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Born to slaves, Wells devoted her entire life to educating people about the horrors of discrimination and lynching. She was secretary of the National Afro-American Council and founder of the Negro Fellowship League.

Issued: 1990



MARIANNE MOORE

(1887-1972)

In 1952 American poet Marianne Moore won the Pulitzer Prize for *Collected Poems* and the National Book Award for poetry. She was born in Kirkwood, Missouri.

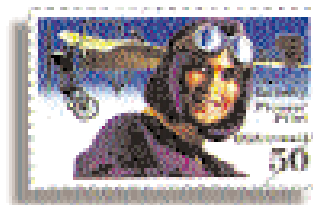
Issued: 1990

HARRIET QUIMBY

(1875-1912)

Harriet Quimby was a pioneer among pilots; she was the first American woman to receive a pilot's license and the first woman to fly the English Channel solo. Her primary occupations were journalist and drama critic.

Issued: 1991



FANNY BRICE

(1891-1951)

Fanny Brice was a singer and comedienne best known for her performances in the Ziegfeld Follies and the film *The Great Ziegfeld*. She is also remembered for satirical sketches such as her "Baby Snooks" character on radio.

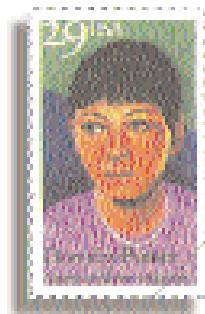
Issued: 1991

DOROTHY PARKER

(1893-1967)

Dorothy Parker was known for her poetry and short stories, which were widely published. She was also one of *The New Yorker's* first regular contributors, and later wrote the magazine's book reviews.

Issued: 1992



MILLIONS OF WOMEN JOIN WAR EFFORT; 1942: WOMEN SUPPORT WAR EFFORT

When millions of men joined the armed forces, millions of women took over factory jobs and made up more than one-third of the civilian workforce. Millions of women also worked as volunteers.

Issued: 1942 and 1999



GRACE KELLY

(1929-1982)

Grace Kelly made her film debut in *Fourteen Hours* (1951). Other films include *High Noon* (1952), *Mogambo* (1953), *Dial M for Murder* (1954), *Rear Window* (1954), *To Catch a Thief* (1955), and *High Society* (1956). Known for her classic beauty and charm, she held the American public spellbound and enchanted the world when she left the glamorous lifestyle of Hollywood to marry Prince Rainier of Monaco in 1956.

Issued: 1993





DINAH WASHINGTON

(1924-1963)

Dinah Washington, born Ruth Lee Jones, was crowned “Queen of the Blues” for her nationwide popularity as a singer and piano player.

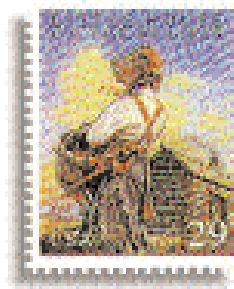
Issued: 1993

PATSY CLINE

(1932-1963)

At the time of her death in a 1963 plane crash, Patsy Cline was the nation’s most popular female country music artist. Her unique style changed forever the flavor of country music. She was one of the first performers to top the country and pop record charts. Crossover hits like “Walkin’ After Midnight,” “Crazy,” and “I Fall to Pieces” are still popular today. She remains one of the best selling female country music artists of all time.

Issued: 1993



CLASSIC BOOKS

Little House on the Prairie was one of nine books in a series based on the childhood experiences of Laura Ingalls Wilder (1867-1957). The books, set in the 1870s and 1880s on the American frontier, are classics of children’s literature.

Issued: 1993

MILITARY MEDICS TREAT THE WOUNDED

This stamp features a female medic examining a soldier. It is part of a stamp pane entitled 1943: Turning the Tide.

Issued: 1993



THE CARTER FAMILY

The country music group The Carter Family included A.P. Delaney Carter, his wife Sara Dougherty Carter, and his sister-in-law Maybelle Addington Carter. During their career, from 1927 to 1941, they recorded nearly 270 records. They were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1970.

Issued: 1993

CLARA BOW

(1905-1965)

A star of the early cinema, Bow appeared in many silent films, including *Mantrap*, *It*, and *Wings*. She came to Hollywood after winning a high school beauty contest.

Issued: 1994





ZASU PITTS

(ca. 1898-1963)

ZaSu Pitts began her film career as an extra, discovered by Mary Pickford. She performed in both comedy and drama films. Pitts was immortalized in Max Fleischer's *Popeye* cartoons, which patterned girlfriend Olive Oyl after Pitts's voice and figure. Her films include *Greed* and *All Quiet on the Western Front*.

Issued: 1994

THEDA BARA

(1885-1955)

Theda Bara is remembered as one of the most magnetic stars of the silent film era. Her roles in vampire films led to the term "vamp" that was so much a part of that era. She appeared in *A Fool There Was*, *Cleopatra*, and *Salome*, among other films.

Issued: 1994





ETHEL WATERS

(1896-1977)

Ethel Waters is credited with numerous “firsts”: first woman to perform the song “St. Louis Blues” on stage; first African-American woman to perform with an otherwise all-white cast on Broadway; first African-American woman to perform the leading role in a dramatic play; and one of the first African-American entertainers to perform on radio. The “Mother of Modern Popular Singing,” Ethel Waters spent more than 15 years singing for the Billy Graham crusades, during which time she made famous the song “His Eye Is on the Sparrow.”

Issued: 1994

ETHEL MERMAN

(1908-1984)

Ethel Merman quickly made her way to the place she would dominate for decades—the spotlight of the Broadway stage. She was the lead performer in the Broadway musicals *Something for the Boys* (1943), *Annie Get Your Gun* (1946), *Call Me Madam* (1953), and *Gypsy* (1959).

Issued: 1994





BESSIE SMITH

(1894-1937)

“The Empress of the Blues,” Bessie Smith reigned throughout the United States and Europe from 1923 to 1933. In her teens, she joined vaudeville tent shows, touring with “Ma” Rainey. In 1923 her first record, “Downhearted Blues,” was a huge success. She recorded more than 100 blues and popular songs, paving the way for future jazz musicians and blues singers.

Issued: 1994

“MA” RAINEY

(1886-1939)

Born Gertrude Pridgett, “Ma” Rainey is considered the “Mother of the Blues.” She first appeared on stage in minstrel and vaudeville shows. Later she and her husband, William “Pa” Rainey, formed a song-and-dance act and began to offer audiences a different kind of music. As the plaintive music she dubbed “the blues” caught on, “Ma” Rainey’s fame grew.

Issued: 1994



BILLIE HOLIDAY

(1915-1959)

Born Eleanora Fagan, Billie Holiday was one of the most influential jazz singers of her time. She rendered popular jazz tunes dealing with heartbreak, despair, and loneliness with a buoyancy that rose above the heavy sentimentality of the words. In the late 1930's Holiday's many solo hits, such as "God Bless the Child" and "Strange Fruit," became standard tunes for generations of singers to follow.

Issued: 1994



MILDRED BAILEY

(1907-1951)

Mildred Bailey began her music career as a song demonstrator, performing with local bands in her hometown of Tekoa, Washington. The first featured female big-band vocalist, she later performed with her husband, Red Norvo, on the CBS Radio Network.

Issued: 1994



ANNIE OAKLEY

(1860-1926)

Annie Oakley, known as “Little Sure Shot,” could hit a dime in midair from a distance of 90 feet or shoot a playing card in half. At age 15 Oakley won a shooting competition with well-known marksman Frank Butler, whom she later married. From 1885 to 1902 her special skill of stunt shooting made her a leading attraction in Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show.

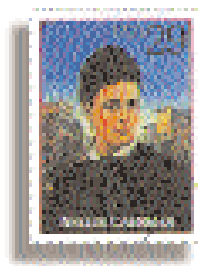
Issue: 1994

NELLIE CASHMAN

(ca. 1850-1925)

Irish-born Nellie Cashman made her reputation as a peace-maker and supporter of charitable causes. Striving always to help others while she worked her own mining claims or operated boarding houses, she raised her sister’s orphaned children, campaigned against public hangings, and once saved a man from an angry mob. One of her many nicknames was the “Angel of Tombstone.”

Issue: 1994



VIRGINIA APGAR

(1909-1974)

In 1952 Dr. Virginia Apgar published a simple assessment method that allows doctors and nurses in the delivery room to make immediate evaluation of a newborn's general condition. This method, known as the Apgar Score, has aided in the identification of those infants who need immediate medical attention.

Issued: 1994

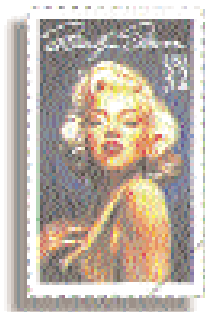


BESSIE COLEMAN

(1893-1926)

Bessie Coleman, an African-American aviation pioneer, was known for her air acrobatics and high-flying stunts. Denied admission to aviation schools in the U.S. because of her race and gender, she learned to fly in France. In 1921 she became the first woman to earn an international pilot's license.

Issued: 1995



MARILYN MONROE

(1926-1962)

Screen legend Marilyn Monroe left a legacy of films, including such box-office successes as *The Seven Year Itch*, *How to Marry a Millionaire*, *Some Like It Hot*, *The Misfits*, and *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*.

Issued: 1995

MARY CHESNUT

(1823-1886)

Confederate diarist Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut wrote one of the most informative documents to come out of the Civil War. In her diary she described life on her plantation in South Carolina and recounted many key events that occurred in Charleston and Richmond during the war.

Issued: 1995

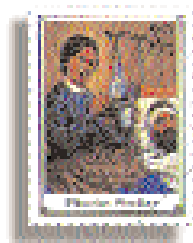


PHOEBE PEMBER

(1823-1913)

Phoebe Yates Pember helped administer a Confederate military hospital during the Civil War.

Issued: 1995



ALICE HAMILTON

(1869-1970)

Dr. Alice Hamilton's pioneering work in the field of industrial medicine contributed to the passage of early workman's compensation laws. Included among Hamilton's many causes were child labor laws and other protective legislation for women.

Issued: 1995



ALICE PAUL

(1885-1977)

Alice Paul was the founder of the National Women's Party and the author of the Equal Rights Amendment. In commemoration of her activities, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1979.

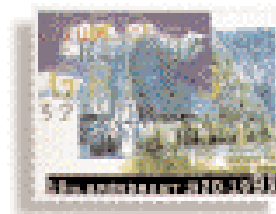
Issued: 1995



WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

From 1848 to 1920, suffragists campaigned for women's right to vote, which was finally realized with the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution on August 26, 1920.

Issued: 1995





RUTH BENEDICT

(1887-1948)

Anthropologist Ruth Benedict was famous for her studies in cultural relativism. She maintained that no culture should be viewed as better than another because each is distinct in its own way.

Issued: 1995

JACQUELINE COCHRAN

(1906-1980)

In 1953 Jacqueline Cochran became the first woman to break the sound barrier. This pioneering aviator also set world speed and altitude records during her career in the Air Force Reserve. She also trained other women pilots as director of the Women's Air Force Service Pilots in World War II.

Issued: 1996



DOROTHY FIELDS

(1905-1974)

Dorothy Fields entertained millions with her unsurpassed lyrics for great American songs. These include "On the Sunny Side of the Street," and "I Can't Give You Anything but Love." She and her brother Herbert wrote the original book *Annie Get Your Gun*.

Issued: 1996

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

(1887-1986)

Georgia O'Keeffe is regarded as one of the leading American artists of the 20th century. Best known for her dramatic and sensual use of color and light in landscape and flower paintings, she used nature as her main source of inspiration.

Issued: 1996



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AND RESEARCH

Breast cancer affects nearly one out of eight women in the U.S., making it the most common form of cancer in American women. Evidence supports that early detection and treatment can greatly increase the survival rate of those affected.

Issued: 1996 and 1998

LILY PONS

(1898-1976)

Lily Pons was famous for her coloratura soprano voice and her technical skill. She delighted music lovers for more than 25 years both on the opera stage and in film.

Issued: 1997





ROSA PONSELLE

(1897-1981)

Rosa Ponselle was the leading dramatic soprano for nearly two decades at the New York Metropolitan Opera. Her exceptional voice earned her a wide range of operatic roles, including the title role in Bellini's *Norma*.

Issued: 1997

WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE

Nearly two million women have served in the U.S. Armed Forces with dedication, courage, and patriotism in times of conflict and peace for more than 220 years.

Issued: 1997



GIBSON GIRL

Created by illustrator Charles Dana Gibson, the Gibson Girl set the fashion for the ideal American woman at the turn of the century.

Issued: 1998

U.S. BOY AND GIRL SCOUTING BEGINS

The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. (at first known as the Girl Guides) was formed in 1912. Scouting introduced young girls to a variety of outdoor activities and promoted self-reliance and resourcefulness.

Issued: 1998



MARGARET MEAD

(1901-1978)

Anthropologist Margaret Mead explored the effect of culture on the behavior and personalities of children and adults, as well as the differences between men and women.

Issued: 1998

19TH AMENDMENT

The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified August 26, 1920. The fight for women's suffrage had been won, ending the struggle that began in the mid-19th century.

Issued: 1998





FLAPPERS DO THE CHARLESTON

Caricaturist John Held, Jr., portrayed the fun-loving, escapist lifestyle of the Roaring Twenties. His drawings of young women called “flappers” symbolized the decade.

Issued: 1998

AMERICA SURVIVES THE DEPRESSION

Dorothea Lange’s 1936 photograph of Native-American Florence Owens Thompson symbolizes the courage of Americans as they tried to survive the hard times of the Great Depression.

Issued: 1998



MAHALIA JACKSON

(1911-1972)

Mahalia Jackson was considered the “Queen of Gospel” and has been credited with turning this music into an art form. Through performances on radio and television, she helped popularize gospel music domestically and internationally.

Issued: 1998

ROBERTA MARTIN

(1907-1969)

A gifted and versatile leader of the Roberta Martin Singers, Roberta Martin not only was blessed with a glorious contralto voice, but also was an accomplished pianist, composer, and music publisher. She dedicated her life to gospel music for more than 36 years.

Issued: 1998



CLARA WARD

(1924-1973)

Clara Ward was accompanying the Ward Trio on the piano at the age of ten. On the path to becoming one of the first commercially successful gospel singers, she composed, arranged, sang, and led the famous Ward Singers to prominence during the golden age of gospel music, 1945-1960.

Issued: 1998



SISTER ROSETTA

(1915-1973)

Sister Rosetta was the daughter of a spiritual singer. After establishing a reputation as a singer-evangelist in Chicago, she moved to New York and became known there for her electrifying performances in theaters, night-clubs, and churches. She was a brilliant guitarist and gospel singer who recorded many popular vocal duets, including “Up Above My Head,” with Marie Knight in 1947.

Issued: 1998

MADAM C.J. WALKER

(1867-1919)

Madam C.J. Walker was a remarkable woman who overcame poverty to become one of the most successful African-American entrepreneurs of the early 20th century. Her success in business was more than matched by her generous philanthropy and social activism.

Issued: 1998



LILA AND DEWITT WALLACE

(1889-1984)

Lila and DeWitt Wallace, the founders of the world famous *Reader's Digest*, matched their extraordinary publishing success with remarkable generosity, donating millions to charitable causes in education, arts, and music. In 1972 they were awarded the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom for their contributions.

Issued: 1998



BALLET

Originating in Italy many centuries ago, ballet became, over time, an internationally acclaimed form of dance. Ballet has evolved greatly in the 20th century, but it is still known particularly for its graceful and seemingly effortless movements that combine flexibility, balance, and strength.

Issued: 1998

EMILY POST'S ETIQUETTE

In an era of social mobility, Emily Post defined modern good manners and conduct. Her books, radio programs, and syndicated newspaper column set the standard for etiquette throughout the 20th century.

Issued: 1998





AYN RAND

(1905-1982)

Born in Russia, American novelist Ayn Rand became a well-known author after the success of her bestselling novels *Fountainhead* in 1943 and *Atlas Shrugged* in 1957. Her beliefs about independent thought and individualism earned her a large following that continues to thrive today.

Issued: 1999

LYNN FONTANNE

(1887-1983)

American actress and comedienne Lynn Fontanne was best known for her role, along with husband Alfred Lunt, in one of the greatest acting partnerships. Their magic and versatility as a team led them to perform on stage and in film and television productions from 1924-1960.

Issued: 1999



MARY BRECKINRIDGE

(1881-1965)

Mary Breckinridge was a pioneer in the field of midwifery and nursing as she sought to bring general health care to rural areas in America. In 1925 she founded the Frontier Nursing Service in Kentucky. Within the first five years, she and her network of midwives reached hundreds of rural families.

Issued: 1999



In addition to the 131 stamps featured in this publication recognizing individual and joint achievement, numerous other stamps have featured women.

Women have appeared on stamps issued to honor occupations such as nursing, teaching, and the delivery of mail.

Goddesses have been depicted on newspaper and other special handling stamps, and women have been portrayed as figureheads and in paintings, such as Sano di Pietro's *Madonna and Child* (1997). Women have been featured on stamps honoring the Olympic Games and motion pictures. They have been commemorated on stamps recognizing legends of American music and in classic collections acknowledging the contributions of legendary figures of the American West and the Civil War.



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